

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed with a Request for Continued Examination in response to the final Office Action mailed November 3, 2004, as permitted under 37 CFR § 1.114.

Claims 34-48 are pending in the application, with Claims 34, 40, and 43-48 being independent. In this Amendment, Claims 34, 36, 40, and 43-48 have been amended.

In the last Office Action, Claims 34-48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,727,060 (Young), in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,760,537 (Mankovitz).

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Nonetheless, to advance prosecution, Applicants have amended Claims 34, 36, 40, and 43-48 to even more clearly recite the features of Applicants' invention.

Specifically, independent Claim 34 relates to a recording apparatus including a memory, a control unit, and a recording device. The memory stores information of a plurality of channels receivable by a tuner of an external receiver. The information is sent from the external receiver to the recording apparatus upon power-up of the external receiver or upon connection of the recording apparatus to the powered-up external receiver. The control unit controls output of a signal from the recording apparatus to the external receiver, the signal designating one of the plurality of channels receivable by the external receiver, based on the information stored in the memory. The recording device records a television signal sent from the external receiver to the recording apparatus in response to the channel-designating output signal.

Independent Claim 40 also relates to a recording apparatus including a memory, a control unit, and a recording device. The memory in Claim 40 stores information of a plurality of programs selectable by an external receiver. The information is sent from the external receiver to the recording apparatus upon power-up of the external

receiver or upon connection of the recording apparatus to the powered-up external receiver. The control unit controls output of a signal from the recording apparatus to the external receiver, the signal designating a program selectable by the external receiver based on the information stored in the memory. The recording device records a television signal sent from the external receiver to the recording apparatus in response to the program-designating output signal.

Independent Claim 43 relates to a method of controlling a recording apparatus. The method includes referring to a memory of the recording apparatus, which stores information of a plurality of channels receivable by an external receiver upon power-up of the external receiver or upon connection of the recording apparatus to the powered-up external receiver, and generating a signal designating one of the plurality of channels receivable by the external receiver. The method also includes a step of sending the channel-designating signal from the recording apparatus to the external receiver. In addition, the method includes recording a television signal sent from the external receiver to the recording apparatus in response to the channel-designating signal.

Independent Claim 44 also relates to a method of controlling a recording apparatus. The method of Claim 44 includes referring to a memory of the recording apparatus, which stores information of a plurality of programs selectable by an external receiver upon power-up of the external receiver or upon connection of the recording apparatus to the powered-up external receiver, and generating a signal designating one of the plurality of programs selectable by the external receiver. The method of Claim 44 also involves sending the program-designating signal from the recording apparatus to the external receiver. In addition, the method of Claim 44 involves recording a television signal sent from the external receiver to the recording apparatus in response to the program-designating signal.

Independent Claims 45 and 46 relate to a television signal apparatus including a tuner and a control unit.

The control unit of Claim 45 controls the television signal receiving apparatus so as to send information of a plurality of channels receivable by the tuner to an external recording apparatus upon power-up of the television signal receiving apparatus or upon connection of the external recording apparatus to the television signal receiving apparatus, and to send to the external recording apparatus a television signal of one of the plurality of channels designated by a control signal sent from the external recording apparatus to the television signal receiving apparatus.

The control unit of Claim 46 controls the television signal receiving apparatus so as to send information of a plurality of programs selectable by the tuner to an external recording apparatus upon power-up of the television signal receiving apparatus or upon connection of the external recording apparatus to the television signal receiving apparatus, and to send to the external recording apparatus a television signal of one of the plurality of programs designated by a control signal sent from the external recording apparatus to the television signal receiving apparatus.

Independent Claims 47 and 48 relate to methods of controlling a television signal receiving apparatus.

The method of Claim 47 involves sending information of a plurality of channels receivable by the television signal receiving apparatus to an external recording apparatus upon power-up of the television signal receiving apparatus or upon connection of the external recording apparatus to the television signal receiving apparatus. The method also includes selecting one of the plurality of channels designated by a control signal sent from the external recording apparatus to the television signal receiving apparatus. The method also involves sending a television signal of the selected channel from the television signal receiving apparatus to the external recording apparatus.

The method of Claim 48 involves sending information of a plurality of programs selectable by the television signal receiving apparatus to an external recording apparatus upon power-up of the television signal receiving apparatus or upon connection of the external recording apparatus to the television signal receiving apparatus. The method also involves selecting one of the plurality of programs designated by a control signal from the external recording apparatus. The method also involves sending a television signal of the selected program from the television signal receiving apparatus to the external recording apparatus.

With the features recited in Applicants' independent claims, for example in Claim 34, information stored in the memory of the recording apparatus is sent from the external receiver to the recording apparatus upon power-up of the external receiver or upon connection of the recording apparatus to the powered-up external receiver. The invention incorporating this feature, as discussed, for example, at page 23, lines 12-19 of the specification, allows a user to perform regular recording and reservation of picture recording of digital TV broadcasting with ease.

Applicants submit that the cited art, taken singly or in combination, does not teach or suggest the features recited in Applicants' independent claims. Specifically, Young relates to a television schedule system that allows a television viewer to access on-screen television program listings, and to use those listings to control operation of a recording device. The Examiner acknowledges that Young does not disclose that the control unit controls output of the signal from the recording apparatus to the external receiver. The Examiner cited Mankovitz, relating to an apparatus and method for a television program scheduling, to cure this deficiency.

Applicants submit, however, that Young, taken singly or in combination with Mankovitz, does not teach or suggest the combination of features recited in Claims 34 and 43 of an apparatus and method which includes the memory of the recording apparatus storing information of a plurality of channels receivable by a tuner of an external receiver that is sent from the external receiver to the recording apparatus upon power-up of the external receiver or upon connection of the recording apparatus to the powered-up external receiver.

Likewise, Applicants submit that Young, taken singly or in combination with Mankovitz, does not teach or suggest the combination of features recited in Claims 45 and 47 including an apparatus and method in which the television signal receiving apparatus is controlled so as to send information of a plurality of channels receivable by the tuner to an external recording apparatus upon power-up of the television signal receiving apparatus or upon connection of the external recording apparatus to the television signal receiving apparatus.

Similarly, Applicants submit that neither Young nor Mankovitz, taken singly or in combination, teach the features that were cited in combination in independent Claims 40 and 44, in which a memory stores information of a plurality of programs selectable by an external receiver, and the information is sent from the external receiver to the recording apparatus upon power-up of the external receiver or upon connection of the recording apparatus to the powered-up external receiver.

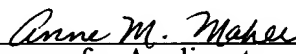
Likewise, Applicants submit that neither Young nor Mankovitz, taken singly or in combination, teach the features that were cited in combination in independent Claims 46 and 48 including sending information of a plurality of channels selectable by a tuner or a television signal receiving apparatus to an external recording apparatus upon power-up of the television signal receiving apparatus or upon connection of the external recording apparatus to the television signal receiving apparatus.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that the independent claims are patentably distinguishable from the cited art. Applicants further submit that the dependent claims are patentably distinguishable from the cited art for at least the reasons discussed above for their respective base claims. In addition, Applicants submit that the dependent claims recite additional features further distinguishing them from the cited art. Accordingly, individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration, withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the last Office Action, and an early Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C., office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address below.

Respectfully submitted,



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